

**TOWN COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
AUGUST 13, 1997**

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. Present were Mayor Venis, Vice-Mayor Santini and Councilmembers Bush, Cox and Kiar. Also present were Town Administrator Flatley, Town Attorney Webber, and Assistant Town Clerk Bergamini recording the meeting.

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF DAVIE, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE R-97-270 PROVISION OF FIRE RESCUE SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS IN THE TOWN OF DAVIE, FLORIDA; ESTABLISHING THE ESTIMATED ASSESSMENT RATE FOR FIRE RESCUE ASSESSMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 1997; DIRECTING THE PREPARATION OF AN ASSESSMENT ROLL; AUTHORIZING A PUBLIC HEARING AND DIRECTING THE PROVISION OF NOTICE THEREOF; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. This item was discussed later in the meeting.

2. POLICE/FIRE/EMS FACILITY DISCUSSION

Christopher Wallace, Director of Budget and Finance, advised that a meeting had been held with the contractor, architect and the committee coordinating construction of the facility. He said the first construction estimates showed that costs were higher than anticipated and related that certain elements could be eliminated at the discretion of Council. Mr. Wallace explained that the mansard roof, which added visual character to the building, added \$300,000 to the original estimate; however, the project should still be brought in on budget with adjustments.

Mr. Wallace stated that other elements requiring attention included future expansion and site plans. He said the facility would ultimately require a two or three story parking garage. Police Chief Jack Mackie described the eventual addition to the building which was anticipated within seven to ten years. He said it would be approximately 22,000 square feet and require additional parking.

Mayor Venis inquired about an option to the mansard roof. Discussion ensued regarding aesthetics and costs. Councilmember Cox stated her desire to see the cost difference between barrel and S-tile. Chief Mackie said that differential could be provided and added that the final site plan would be available within the following weeks. Mayor Venis recommended a line-item review be held one-half hour before the appropriate Town Council meeting.

Councilmember Cox asked if there was an optional location for the garage. Chief Mackie responded negatively. Discussion followed.

Chief Mackie remarked that the Broward County School Board was not interested in controlling the lake. He advised that with the Town in control of the lake, community functions could be held and provided details of the anticipated improvements to the lake area. Chief Mackie stated that the School Board was installing a fence around the lake during construction and indicated that the Town would assume control of the fence as well.

1. Mr. Wallace introduced Camille Gianatasio, representing Government Systems Group, and Mike Watkins, representing Neighbors Giblon Nickerson, who had been engaged to prepare the assessment rolls.

Ms. Gianatasio related that nothing had changed from the previous year relating to exemption policies. She said revisions to methodology had been done to accommodate changes in law and technology. Ms. Gianatasio stated that a recent Supreme Court decision had assisted in fortifying city decisions. She related that the former per-parcel basis for non-residential categories had been replaced with a per-building basis. Ms. Gianatasio indicated that single building parcels would experience a slight decrease and multiple building parcels would see an increase in the overall assessment. She said residential rates would remain the same.

Mayor Venis inquired which institutions would experience the changes. Ms. Gianatasio replied that under the previous method, a 5,000 square foot parcel and a 3,000 square foot parcel would have been determined to be an 8,000 square foot parcel and would have paid \$395. She advised that the new figures would be \$342 for the 5,000 square foot building and \$239 for the 3,000 square foot buildings.

Vice-Mayor Santini inquired about the campuses with numerous buildings. Ms. Gianatasio responded that these properties would probably pay more and related that schools were listed under the educational rates, which had been reduced.

Councilmember Cox asked if an adjustment of rates by number of calls and category had been applied. Ms. Gianatasio replied negatively and explained that some changes had been made and the situation would continue to be monitored.

Mr. Wallace related that the assessment was for fire/rescue, not EMS costs and stated that recovery of EMS costs had been considered. He said stabilizing rates was the desire and rates would be consistent over time.

Vice-Mayor Santini asked about the percentage of error. Mr. Wallace related that the previous year showed a 95% confidence interval, which was a statistically significant sample. He stated the error rate was less than 5%.

Vice-Mayor Santini recalled the inability to collect from the institutions the previous year and asked if the new assessment fee excluded those entities. Mr. Wallace replied that those facilities designated by Council to be exempt had been exempted. Vice-Mayor Santini questioned whether the additional revenue would pay for the shortages.

Mr. Wallace responded affirmatively.

Councilmember Cox asked about exemptions. Mr. Wallace said that churches were exempt but schools, including churches with schools, were not.

Mr. Watkins stated that the second sentence on page B-2 was in error and should be stricken.

Councilmember Kiar asked if churches were exempt but schools with grades kindergarten through 12th grade and churches with schools kindergarten through 12th grade were not. Mr. Wallace responded affirmatively and indicated that the schools would recover the funds in other ways.

Assistant Town Clerk Bergamini read the resolution by title.

Councilmember Bush made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cox, to approve the resolution with the typographical change to Page B-2. In a roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Mayor Venis - yes; Vice-Mayor Santini - yes; Councilmember Bush - yes; Councilmember Cox - yes; Councilmember Kiar - yes. (Motion carried 5-0)

Mayor Venis announced that a public hearing on the assessment was scheduled for September 10, 1997 at 6:30 p.m.

There being no objection, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.